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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF PICKERING

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the year

1953

W. R. M. COUPER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.


INCLUDING THE REPORT
of the
SANITARY INSPECTOR

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**RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF PICKERING**

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Pickering Rural District for the year 1953.

W. R. M. COUPER,
Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers of the Authority :

Medical Officer of Health : W. R. M. Couper, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector : P. Pickering, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND GENERAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Area in acres | ... | ... | ... | 76,685 |
| Estimated population | ... | ... | ... | 5,085 |
| Number of inhabited houses | ... | ... | ... | 1,766 |
| Rateable Value | ... | ... | ... | £18,359 |
| Product of Penny Rate | ... | ... | ... | £72/4/6 |

VITAL STATISTICS

Births.

| | | | | | Male | Female | Total |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|--------|-------|
| Live Births | ... | ... | ... | ... | 41 | 38 | 79 |
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 37 | 37 | 74 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Stillbirths | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| All births live and still | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42 | 38 | 80 |
| Crude Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15.7 |
| Illegitimate Rate (percentage of total births) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6.25% |
| Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 population) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0.20% |

Maternal Mortality.

No deaths attributable to pregnancy, childbirth or abortion occurred during the year.

Maternal Mortality Rate NIL

Infant Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

| | | | | | Male | Female | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related live births) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12.5 |

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :

| | | | | | Male | Female | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related live births) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12.5 |

Deaths

Causes of death in the district for the year ended 31st December, 1953 :

| Cause of death | Male | Female | Total |
|---|------|--------|-------|
| Tuberculosis, respiratory | — | — | — |
| Tuberculosis, other | — | — | — |
| Syphilitic disease | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | — | — | — |
| Meningococcal infections | — | — | — |
| Acute poliomyelitis | — | — | — |
| Measles | — | — | — |
| Other infective and parasitic diseases | — | — | — |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach | — | 2 | 2 |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast | — | — | — |
| Malignant neoplasm, uterus | — | — | — |
| Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Leukæmia, aleukæmia | — | — | — |
| Diabetes | — | — | — |
| Vascular lesions of the nervous system | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Coronary disease, angina | 8 | 6 | 14 |
| Hypertension with heart disease | — | 2 | 2 |
| Other heart disease | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Other circulatory disease | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| Influenza | — | 1 | 1 |
| Pneumonia | — | 2 | 2 |
| Bronchitis | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other diseases of the respiratory system | — | — | — |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | — | — | — |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa | — | — | — |
| Nephritis and nephrosis | — | — | — |
| Hyperplasia of prostate | — | — | — |
| Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | — | — | — |
| Congenital malformations | — | — | — |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | — | — | — |
| All other accidents | — | — | — |
| Suicide | — | — | — |
| Homicide and operations of war | — | — | — |
| All causes | 23 | 35 | 58 |

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated population) 11.4

Comparison of Birth and Death Rates.

The crude Birth and Death Rates of any district are not directly comparable with those of England and Wales. To make approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution differs from that of England and Wales as a whole the crude rates are multiplied by a comparability factor.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Crude Live Birth Rate | ... | ... | ... | 15.7 |
| Comparability factor for births | ... | ... | ... | 1.15 |
| Adjusted Birth Rate | ... | ... | ... | 18.1 |
| Crude Death Rate | ... | ... | ... | 11.4 |
| Comparability factor for deaths | ... | ... | ... | 0.76 |
| Adjusted Death Rate | ... | ... | ... | 8.7 |

Comparative Table of Birth and Death Rates during 1953.

| Rates per 1,000 population | | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| | Live-Birth Rate | Stillbirth Rate | Death Rate | Infant Mortality Rate |
| England and Wales | 15.5 | 0.35 | 11.4 | 26.8 |
| Pickering Rural District ... | 18.1 | 0.20 | 8.7 | 12.5 |

Section B.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1953.

| Disease | Cases notified |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Measles | 114 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 1 |
| Scarlet Fever | 3 |
| Erysipelas | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 1 |
| Total | 120 |

Where necessary cases of infectious disease are admitted to Cross Lane Hospital, Scarborough and Yearsley Bridge Hospital, York.

Tuberculosis.

New cases and Mortality during 1953.

| Sex | New cases | | Deaths | |
|-------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary | Pulmonary | Non-Pulmonary |
| Male | — | — | — | — |
| Female ... | — | 1 | — | — |
| Totals | — | 1 | — | — |

Section C.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

(i) Laboratory facilities.

Samples for bacteriological examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton. A van calls once a week to collect specimens.

(ii) Local Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The day to day administration of the following services is carried out by the Ryedale Local Health Sub-committee in the urban districts of Malton and Pickering and the rural districts of Helmsley, Kirbymoorside, Malton and Pickering.

(a) CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Child welfare and ante-natal clinics are held at 13 centres in the Ryedale area.

In places where no clinic is held ante-natal and child welfare services are carried out by health visitors in the home.

(b) MIDWIFERY, HEALTH VISITING AND HOME NURSING.

Combined duty nurses serving 16 nursing districts are resident in the Ryedale area.

(c) AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Ambulance stations at Malton and Kirbymoorside provide this service.

(d) IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

Provision is made for primary immunisation against Diphtheria at child welfare centres but the greater part of this service is carried out by general practitioners in their surgeries and in the home.

(e) DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service provides domestic help, at a charge dependent on the income of the household, in homes where there has been a confinement or ill-health of the mother and to the aged and infirm.

Section D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water Supplies.

ANALYSIS OF WATER SAMPLES.

Public Supplies :

| | Parish | Type | Satis- factory | Unsatis- factory |
|---------------------------|--------|--------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Hartoft ... | ... | Source | 1 | — |
| Middleton | ... | Tap | 3 | — |
| Rosedale | ... | Tap | 1 | — |
| Thornton Dale | ... | Tap | 1 | 1 |
| Wrelton | ... | Tap | 1 | — |
| Lockton | ... | Tap | 1 | 1 |
| Newton | ... | Source | 2 | — |
| Private Supplies : | | | | |
| Bickley ... | ... | Source | 2 | — |
| Jingleby | ... | Source | 3 | 2 |
| Hill Cottages, Rosedale | | Source | — | 3 |
| Thornton Dale | ... | Source | — | 1 |
| Lockton | ... | Tap | 1 | 2 |
| Newton | ... | Source | — | 2 |
| Total ... | | | 16 | 12 |

The turbine which is used to lift water from the source to the reservoir on the Newton supply has not proved satisfactory in periods of drought. This has caused considerable shortage of water in this area. A scheme has been accepted by the Local Authority to provide an auxiliary engine. It is hoped that this equipment will solve the problem for future years.

The Local Authority have agreed to proceed with a scheme to serve the parish of Cawthorne which is mainly agricultural. Every effort has been made to secure a mains supply to the Pickering Marishes without success but it is still hoped that a great deal of progress will be seen in the not too distant future.

Water shortages occurred three times on the Wrelton, Aislaby, Middleton, supplies and these had to be supplemented by assistance from the Fire Service. These shortages will be remedied by the scheme to serve Cawthorne which has been prepared by the Consultant Engineer.

Details of the number of houses supplied with water, laid on to the houses, or supplied by standpipes, are published. These are correct so far as can be ascertained from previous surveys and are as follows :—

| Parish | | | No. of Houses with water laid on. | No. of Houses served by standpipe. | No. of Houses served by wells, etc. |
|--------------------|-----|-----|---|--|---|
| Thornton Dale | ... | ... | 254 | 9 | — |
| Levisham | ... | ... | 19 | — | — |
| Kingthorpe | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| Lockton | ... | ... | 37 | 18 | — |
| Pickering Marishes | ... | ... | — | — | 27 |
| Allerston | ... | ... | 35 | — | 8 |
| Wilton | ... | ... | 19 | — | 2 |
| Ebberston | ... | ... | 41 | 7 | 4 |
| Middleton | ... | ... | 39 | 5 | 4 |
| Aislaby | ... | ... | 10 | 7 | 1 |
| Wrelton | ... | ... | 18 | 10 | 1 |
| Cropton | ... | ... | 53 | 7 | — |
| Cawthorne | ... | ... | — | — | 1 |
| Newton | ... | ... | 41 | — | 3 |
| Rosedale East | ... | ... | 60 | — | 14 |
| Rosedale West | ... | ... | 8 | 12 | 20 |
| Hartoft | ... | ... | 4 | — | 2 |
| Normanby | ... | ... | 16 | 5 | — |
| Thornton Risboro | ... | ... | — | — | 1 |
| Sinnington | ... | ... | 57 | 7 | 6 |
| Marton | ... | ... | 20 | 16 | 2 |
| Barughs Ambo | ... | ... | 19 | 10 | 2 |
| Kirbymisperton | ... | ... | 26 | 6 | 1 |

Refuse Disposal.

The refuse collection is carried out by direct labour and continues to be satisfactory but ever increasing demands due to increased numbers of houses and properties requiring a collection make it necessary to spend more time on this work. The cost of running this service must, therefore increase. The tipping of refuse leaves a lot to be desired, but as the tips are not the property of the Local Authority strict supervision cannot be exercised.

Salvage of paper and scrap metal continues. This brought in a revenue of £37 5s. 4d.

Sewage Disposal.

Every effort is being made by the Local Authority to provide Sewerage schemes for the villages of Thornton Dale, Middleton, and Sinnington.

Food Premises.

The undermentioned food premises are regularly visited and inspected :—

| Type of Business | | | | No. registered under Food and Drugs Act | No. in the Area |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|-----------------------|
| Butchers | ... | ... | ... | — | 4 |
| Cooked Meats | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | — | 3 |
| Ice Cream Shops | ... | ... | ... | 9 | 9 |
| Fish Friers | ... | ... | ... | — | 2 |

There are no dairies within the area that are not dealt with by the Ministry of Agriculture. It was not found necessary during the year to reject any food as unfit for human consumption. No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred.

Synopsis of Inspections

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Nuisances Inspected | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Nuisances Found | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Nuisances Abated | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Tents, Vans, Sheds | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Drainage | ... | ... | ... | ... | 81 |
| Sewerage | ... | ... | ... | ... | 63 |
| Water Supplies | ... | ... | ... | ... | 351 |
| Water Samples | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| Conversions | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Food Premises, including Bakehouses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32 |
| Shop inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Housing Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78 |
| Housing Visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | 130 |
| Housing Sites | ... | ... | ... | ... | 128 |
| Refuse Collection | ... | ... | ... | ... | 70 |
| Rodent Control | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Infectious Diseases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Factories Act | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | ... | 138 |

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The block treatment of villages in co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture who treat all farms, has proved very effective. Periodic treatment of refuse tips is necessary.

Shops Act, 1934.

Nine inspections of Shops in the area proved to be satisfactory and no contraventions were found.

Camping Sites.

There are no licensed camping sites within the area.

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades in the area.

Slaughterhouses.

There are eight slaughterhouses in the district none of which are used for public slaughtering.

Schools.

The sanitary accommodation at some schools in the area leaves much to be desired but every effort is being made by the responsible Authority to correct this state of affairs.

Open Ditches.

In many instances sewage effluent is discharged into open ditches. These are cleaned out as far as possible by direct labour.

HOUSING

1. Number of New Houses erected during the year.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| By Local Authority | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| By Private Enterprise | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Number of Houses under construction by Local Authority | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |

2. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health and Housing Acts) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78 |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|

3. Remedy of Defects during the year.

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number of defective houses repaired or improved | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|

4. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 16, of the Housing Act 1936 :

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| 1. Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | Nil |
|--|-----|-----|

2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices ...
 - (a) By Owners Nil
 - (b) By Local Authority in lieu of owners Nil
- B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil
 2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices
 - (a) By Owners Nil
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners Nil
- C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936 :
 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... Nil
 2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders Nil
- D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 :
 1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil
 2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit Nil
- 5. Housing Act 1936. Overcrowding.**
 - A. 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 1
 2. Number of families therein 1
 - B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil
 - C. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year
 - D. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil
 - E. Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report Nil
- 6. Housing Act 1949.**

There has been one grant made under this Act during the year under review.

